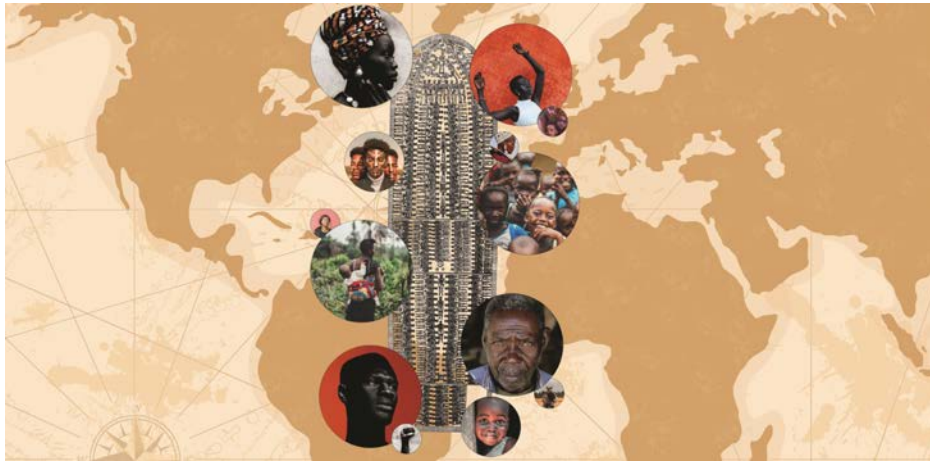




## Middle Passage Sunday

August 30, 2026 ❖ Old South Church *in* Boston ❖ 11:00am

*Take heart: it is not too late to build a better world.*

## GATHER

PRELUDE

Chibuzo Dunun

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

John M. Edgerton

Beautiful are the works of God.

**Beautiful also are the skins of God's people.**

Beautiful is the mind of God.

**Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people.**

Beautiful is the heart of God.

**Beautiful also are the souls of God's people.**

God made the heavens and the earth.

**To God be the glory for the things God has done!**

*—Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago*

\*HYMN 572

**When Israel was in Egypt's Land**

GO DOWN, MOSES

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”*

SUNG RESPONSE

**Bind Us Together**

**Congregation:** [refrain]

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that  
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,  
bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with love.

Text: Bob Gillman, 1974  
Tune: BIND US TOGETHER, Bob Gillman, 1974

Choir:

*You are the family of God; you are the promise divine.  
You are God's chosen desire; you are the glorious new wine. (refrain)*

WELCOME

**ATTEND**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

# CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rachel J. Barton

**Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.** —*PCUSA Book of Worship*

\*READING THE NAMES

Laura Walker Dunn, Eliette Hilare, David O'Malley,  
Anne Scholder, Shelia Randolph, and William Wei  
*Members of (G)RACE Speaks*

*Silence is kept.*

MEMORIAL PRAYER

John M. Edgerton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

City Called Heaven

Josephine Poelinitz, *arr.*

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow,  
I'm left in this wide world, this wide world alone!  
Ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow  
trying to make it, make heaven my home.



# SUNG RESPONSE

## Go Now in Peace

(Introduction)

Go now in peace, ne-ver be a-fraid;  
 God will go with you each hour of ev-'ry day. Go now in faith,  
 stead-fast, strong and true, know God will guide you in all you  
 do. A - men, a - men, a - men.

Text: Don Besig and Nancy Price, 1988  
 Tune: Don Besig, 1988; adapt. Mitchell Crawford, 2022

# POSTLUDE

## Chibuzo Dunun



Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship under the Portico following the Postlude.

Today's Instrumentalist: CHIBUZO DUNUN, Akili Jamal Haynes, *founder and director*

The Flowers today are given by the (G)RACE Speaks committee,  
 as we remember our enslaved members from history.  
 May they rest in peace.

*Close-Up*, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,  
 begins following Worship at the front of the Sanctuary.  
 Led by docent Kate Silfen.

## REMEMBERING OUR AFRICAN MEMBERS

The following people, all of African descent, most of them enslaved,  
were either baptized, admitted into membership,  
or both at Old South Church between the years 1696 & 1783.  
They are listed in the chronological order of the date of their membership or baptism.  
Families are grouped together. Children's names are in parentheses.

*As long as you speak my name I shall live forever. - African Proverb*

Lydia  
Juno, Essex (Essex Jr. & Toby)  
Sarah  
Margaret  
Thomas  
Ebenezer  
Toby, Patience  
    (Patience Jr, Grace, Essex, &  
Ruth)  
Jane, Onesimus (William)  
Mingo  
Elizabeth (Pompey & Abigail)  
Worcester  
Deborah  
Philisia  
John Myat  
Robert Due  
Towerhill  
Argalus  
Cornwall  
Brill

Maria  
Lucy Manwill Basset  
Richard & Maria  
Titus  
Scipio  
James  
Margaret  
Rose  
Ann  
Phillis (Jane & Ann)  
Simon  
Julia  
Maria, Richard (George)  
Scipio  
Dinah  
Dinah  
Dinah  
Flora  
Katherine  
Lucy  
Pompey

Thomas  
Cato  
Lucy  
Baker  
Scipio  
James Bow  
Phillis  
Katherine  
Boston  
Flora (Scipio, Nancy, & Jane)  
Patience (Patience Jr)  
Bristol (James)  
Judith  
Venus (Dinah & Peter)  
Dinah  
Hagar  
Juba  
Lucas  
Newton Prince  
James  
Fidelia, Peter  
    (Scipio, Margaret, & Katherine)  
Thomas  
Phillis Wheatley  
David  
Scipio Gunney  
Moses, (Moses Jr., Juda, & Paul)  
Thomas  
Quickly Oliver  
Richard Stanley  
Lucas & Phillis Taylor

John Domorett  
Elizabeth Tillinghast  
    (Anne Elizabeth Tillinghast  
    & Sarah Anne Brown)  
Charlotte Rowe  
Haly Pippins Rogers  
Hester Hedge  
Patience Tyler  
Sarah & John Wilson  
    (Sara Anne Elizabeth  
    & Charlotte Arington Wilson)  
George Hart  
Hannah Capen  
Sophia Miler Francis  
Sarah  
Richard  
Titus, a child of ten  
James, Ann, & their three children  
Rose  
Ann, a free woman  
Simon & Pegg Hammond  
Scipio  
Maria  
Julia  
Maria  
Dinah  
Dinah  
Flora  
Katherine  
Pompey  
Thomas

Lucy  
Lucy  
Cato  
Baker  
James Vow  
Katherine  
Boston  
Flora  
Patience  
Bristol  
Venus  
Judith, a child  
Deborah

Dinah  
Juba  
Lucas  
Hagar  
Newton  
James  
Fidelia  
Thomas  
Peter  
Scipio  
David  
Moses

## MIDDLE PASSAGE SUNDAY AND BELONGING

Today's Middle Passage observance invites us to consider an important dimension of belonging: how honestly understanding our history can help us build a community in which everyone can fully belong. We cannot tell the story of America without telling the truth about slavery, and reckoning with that history is part of the work of building a more truthful and just future.

Middle Passage Sunday is one starting point in a larger journey we will continue throughout the year. Guided by the BELONG Task Force, the whole congregation will work together to deepen Old South's commitments to justice, hospitality, and community. To learn more about Belonging at Old South, visit [\*oldsouth.org/belong\*](https://oldsouth.org/belong).

## **WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH**

Welcome to Old South Church in Boston. We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. Today, Old South Church continues to serve as a sanctuary in the city of Boston.

### **NEW AT OLD SOUTH?**

Welcome! We are so glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out a friendship pad so that we can be in touch with you. If you have any questions or would like to talk to a minister to learn more about the church, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. We also offer childcare from 8:20am-12:30pm every Sunday and Church School at 10am. For questions about our children and family ministries, email [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org).

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

An accessible, single-stall restroom is available near Reception. More restrooms are available, ask at the reception desk.

### **HEARING ASSISTANCE**

Hearing assist devices are available from Ava Welling, our Director of Audio. Please see Ava for a device and instructions on how to use it. For more information or answers to questions, please contact Ava at [ava@oldsouth.org](mailto:ava@oldsouth.org).

### **GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS**

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church for Sunday worship services only. For more information check out [www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

### **LEARN MORE**

Check out the church website [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org) for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of current events.

CCLI #2802138 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH in BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF**

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister*  
Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister* ❖ Rachel J. Barton, *Associate Minister for Transformation*  
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*  
James Harrison Jr., *Wedding Minister* ❖ Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*  
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*  
Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*  
Jonathan Reddix, *Collaborative Pianist* ❖ Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt, *Visiting Organist*  
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*  
Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Thursday Night Church*  
Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*  
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*  
Jamie Chelel, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *Children's Choir Accompanist*  
Rory Razon, *Youth Group Co-Leader*  
Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Director of Operations*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*  
Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*  
Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Ava Welling, *Director of Audio*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*  
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Tahmina Akter, Richard Serebour, & MD Rahman, *Sextons*  
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist* ❖ Shirley Bivins, Anna Pratt, Shelia Randolph, & Zach Zang *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*  
Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Donna Matson, *Treasurer*  
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*  
Rebecca Bowen & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons*

**A NOTE ON THE INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S GRACE**

Old South Church in Boston, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, and in the spirit of Christ's invitation carved into the stone of this church's portico, "Behold I Set Before You an Open Door," welcomes all who seek to know God. Following the One who we believe is Sovereign and Savior, we affirm that each individual is a child of God, and recognize that we are called to be like one body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender, marital status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression to journey together toward the promised realm of God. We invite everyone to join in the common life and mission of our reconciling community through participation and leadership in this congregation, and by fully sharing in the worship, rites and sacraments of this church. As we all move forward with the work of this church, we commit ourselves to making justice and inclusivity a reality in this congregation and in the world. On the threshold of Christ's open door, we rely upon the healing, unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide.



OLD  
SOUTH  
CHURCH  
in BOSTON

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OLD SOUTH RINGERS RESUME REHEARSALS

*Beginning September 1, Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm, Sanctuary balcony*

Curious about our handbell ministry? Ever wanted to learn to play? The Old South Ringers fall season rehearsals resume this Tuesday. There is space at the tables for you! Contact Peter Coulombe at [handbells@oldsouth.org](mailto:handbells@oldsouth.org) or at 617-406-8253 for more info.

## THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH FALL LAUNCH PLANNING DINNER

*Thursday, September 3, 7pm, following Thursday Night Church*

Roll up your sleeves and join us as we get ready to welcome newcomers to Thursday Night Church this Fall. Join us for a special edition of Thursday Night Supper Club in the Gordon Chapel. We'll check in on our plans for the year ahead. Want to join in? Email Rev. Rachel at [rachel@oldsouth.org](mailto:rachel@oldsouth.org).

## CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

*First Sundays, 10am, Ashley's Office, next session September 6*

Need some space to breathe? Time to rest in the spacious silence of God's presence? Please join us for a time of Contemplative Prayer. Questions? Email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

## ONLINE SMALL GROUP

*First Sundays, 7:30pm, Zoom, next session September 6*

Go to [tinyurl.com/2025OSCOOnlineSmallGroup](https://tinyurl.com/2025OSCOOnlineSmallGroup) password 684963 to join

Gather with other online members and Rev. Ashley for a time of fellowship, communion, and deepening our relationships with one another. Please bring something to eat (bread, cracker, cookie) and something to drink (juice, water, coffee) as your communion elements.

## SIGN UP FOR OUR COLLEGE STUDENT WELCOME TABLE

*September 6, under the Portico, sign up at [tinyurl.com/2026OSCCollegeWelcome](https://tinyurl.com/2026OSCCollegeWelcome)*

Tens of thousands of college students move to Boston every September. Help us welcome them and invite them to join us at Old South by volunteering to staff a Welcome Table outside after Festival Worship. Questions? Email Rachel Barton at [rachel@oldsouth.org](mailto:rachel@oldsouth.org).

## RAINBOW TABLE

*Next dinner Friday, September 11, 6pm,*

*Sign up and more info at [tinyurl.com/RainbowTable2026](https://tinyurl.com/RainbowTable2026)*

Rainbow Table is a queer dinner party, where we show up as our most authentic selves. If you love to cook or just eat, bring your appetite for good food and conversation, your embarrassing stories & silly jokes, your music & songs, your date & friends, but most importantly bring yourself.

## WELCOME BACK SUNDAY

*Sunday, September 13, sign up to bring food at [tinyurl.com/2026OSCWelcomeBack](https://tinyurl.com/2026OSCWelcomeBack)*

Join us as we kick off the program year and welcome back both familiar faces and those new to church. The 9am First Worship service will feature the Blessing of the Backpacks, a touching tradition that encompasses the hopes and aspirations of students and all who carry life's journey with them. If you are or have a student in your life, be sure to bring a backpack. At 10am plan on brunching with us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor as we enjoy a Potluck Welcome Back Brunch. Bring something to share, and enjoy the bounty of community and cuisine.

## JOIN IN LEADING *common cathedral* LUNCH

*Sunday, October 4, 9am, Mary Norton Hall Kitchen and Boston Common*

*Questions? Want to sign up? Help lead the event?*

*Email Paul Brouillette at [brouillettepaul@gmail.com](mailto:brouillettepaul@gmail.com) by September 1*

The Homelessness + Housing Insecurity Task Force is offering OSC members the opportunity to host a *common cathedral* luncheon. We are specifically encouraging church members who have previously participated to lead and manage volunteers in preparing sandwich lunches and distributing them on the Boston Common to folks experiencing homelessness. Volunteers have already experienced the camaraderie that develops in the Mary Norton kitchen, a community effort of good will. Know that your time will greatly benefit our neighbors who might otherwise go hungry that day.

## ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

### FALL 2026

A Faith That Does Justice is offering free English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes. Two-hour class sessions occur 2 days per week for 8 weeks beginning the week of September 21, 2026. Sessions are either in person, or else virtual using WhatsApp and Zoom. Applications are being accepted now. Interested applicants may go to [faith-justice.org/esol/](https://faith-justice.org/esol/) or scan the accompanying QR Code to apply online. Once we receive your application, we will follow up with next steps and additional details about the schedule.



## JAN MONSMA MEMORIAL SERVICE



*Sunday, September 20, 1pm*

Jan, a member of Old South Church for 44 years, passed away on August 13th, at the age of 91. She led by example, placing care of others and of God's creation at the top of her to do list. Jim, her husband of nearly 70 years, and her family have been involved in the church in many ways throughout the years, including her leadership in the Congregational Care and Support Committee. Many Old Southers received and cherished the cards and notes that Jan wrote us in times of celebration, grief, and uncertainty. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial contributions be made in Janice's memory to Old South.

## TAKE THE CONGREGATIONAL BELONGING SURVEY

Survey closes August 31, 2026, Scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/29tat4ce](https://tinyurl.com/29tat4ce)

Many members and friends have already participated in listening sessions, and we are grateful for the thoughtful perspectives that have been shared. If you have not been able to attend a listening session—or if you would simply prefer to share your thoughts in writing—we invite you to complete our anonymous Congregational Belonging Survey. The survey should take approximately 10–15 minutes to complete. While the survey is anonymous, you will have the option to provide your contact information if you would like a follow-up conversation.



## GREEN TIP: Prioritize Minimal, Recyclable Packaging

Learn more at [earth911.com/living-well-being/reduce-waste-8-ways/](https://earth911.com/living-well-being/reduce-waste-8-ways/)

The next time you're shopping, observe the packaging in different products and choose only those products that have either recyclable or minimal packaging. Another way to reduce packaging waste is to choose only whole foods, not packaged, processed foods. If the store allows you to bring your own containers, shopping from the bulk bins is a great way to reduce packaging waste.

## REGISTER FOR THE ALL-CHURCH RETREAT OCTOBER 2-4

Save your space by filling out the form at [tinyurl.com/2026OSCRetreat](https://tinyurl.com/2026OSCRetreat)

Join Old South for our annual intergenerational fall retreat. Grow in community with us as we find rest, connection, and play games at stunning Craigville Retreat Center in Centerville, MA on Cape Cod. Questions? Email Kate Nintcheu at [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org).

## SNACKS FOR WORSHIP

We love our snacks! Unfortunately, buying them week after week gets expensive, so we need your help! Would you please buy some of our regular snacks and bring them with you to church every now and again? Every little bit will help us stay within our budget, while still providing snacks for our children, worshippers, and unhoused regulars. Find the list of snacks at [tinyurl.com/OSCSnackList](https://tinyurl.com/OSCSnackList).

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH WEEKLY PUSHBACK

### Museum of African American History

To volunteer, donate, or receive services: [maah.org/](http://maah.org/)

Have other weekly action ideas? Email [outreach@oldsouth.org](mailto:outreach@oldsouth.org)

The Museum of African American History is New England's largest museum dedicated to preserving, conserving and interpreting the contributions of African Americans. In Boston and Nantucket, the Museum has preserved two historic sites and two trails that tell the story of organized Black communities from the Colonial Period through the 19th century. Exhibits, programs, and education activities at the Museum showcase the powerful stories of Black families who worshipped, educated their children, debated the issues of the day, produced great art, organized politically and advanced the cause of freedom. For the second year in a row, Old South is proud to support their work of keeping history alive by making a \$1,000 donation to their efforts.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEADLINES SUBMISSIONS

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSCNewsSubmission](http://tinyurl.com/OSCNewsSubmission) to fill in the form

Does your committee need to advertise an event to the congregation? Fill out the form at the link to ensure that your submissions to the church publications arrive on time and to the right emails. Deadline is Wednesday morning at 8am the week you would like your announcement to begin appearing in our publications. Announcements are subject to approval and may be edited for length or clarity.

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## WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube

**Thursday Night Church**, Thursdays at 6:00 pm

**FIRST Worship** Sundays at 9:00 am

**FESTIVAL Worship** Sundays at 11:00 am

**VESPER HEALING Worship**, Second Sundays at 5:00 pm via Zoom

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*To give online,  
Scan the QR code*

*If You're new to Old South,  
scan the QR code  
to tell us more about yourself.*



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NOTICES 1) Worship services and events at Old South Church are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify an usher. 2) Please do not leave bags unattended in the building, including the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

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Old South Church in Boston ❖ 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 ❖ [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org)